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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/749,311	12/31/2003	Chung-l Lee		1750
25859	7590	07/16/2007		
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ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2163				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
07/16/2007		PAPER		

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.



**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 4-8 are canceled. Claims 1-3 are pending in this office action.
2. Applicant's election of claims 1-3, without traverse, in the reply filed on 03/07/2007 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-3 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 5,671,404 issued to Martin Lizee et al. (hereinafter "Lizee") and further in view of U.S. Patent Number 5,297,039 issued to Atsushi Kanaegami et al. (hereinafter "Kanaegami").

**Claim 1:**

Lizee discloses in figures 1A, 1B, and 3, a system for visually mining information, the system being program to mine data from a structured information report for analyzing, and comprising a data mining module for mining data from the structured information report, the data mining module comprising a parameter obtaining sub-module for obtaining mining parameters and a scanning command; and a querying sub-module for querying data form the structured information report in accordance with the mining parameters; and a dynamic scanning module (*Lizee: column 58-57*); and a marking sub-module for marking an identified field of the

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structure information report with a designated mark (*Lizee: col. 5, lines 11-3, lines 66+; column 6, lines 64-67*).

Lizee fails to explicitly disclose:

a scanning sub-module for scanning the structured information report; and

an identifying sub-module for identifying whether data stored in a field of the structured information report match the mining parameters.

However, Kanaegami discloses in figures 1-6 a system for visually mining information, the system comprising at least:

a scanning sub-module for scanning the structured information report (*Kanaegami: column 2, line 67 – column 3, lines 42*); and

an identifying sub-module for identifying whether data stored in a field of the structured information report match the mining parameters (*Kanaegami: column 2, line 67 – column 3, lines 42*).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Lizee with the teachings of Kanaegami noted above. The skilled artisan would have been motivated to improve the teachings of Lizee per the above because the searching of a structured document or template provides for a more accurate and reliable search (*Kanaegami: lines 7-13*).

**Claim 2:**

The combination of Lizee and Kanaegami discloses all the elements of claim 1, as noted above, and Lizee further discloses wherein the data mining module further comprises a parameter setting sub-module for generating an SQL (structured query language) sentence in

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accordance with the mining parameters (*Lizee: column 5, lines 34 - 67*).

**Claim 3:**

The combination of Lizee and Kanaegami discloses all the elements of claim 1, as noted above, and Lizee further discloses wherein the scanning sub-module comprises a scanning needle for scanning each of the fields of the structured information report (*Lizee: column 6, lines 29-44*).

***Contact Information***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Patrick A. Darno whose telephone number is (571) 272-0788. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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